## Ехнівіт В

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## CHEROKEE NATION

P.O. Box 948 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0948 918-456-0671 Chad "Comtassel" Smith O' Ir G 7 Principal Chief

Joe Grayson, Jr. Jlow John Deputy Principal Chief

March 14, 2005

The Honorable Drew Edmondson Attorney General State of Oklahoma 2300 North Lincoln Boulevard Suite 112 Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Dear Attorney General Edmondson:

I commend you for your interest in preserving the environment in Oklahoma. The Cherokee Nation has long been a supporter of protecting the environment.

I've had the opportunity to meet with a number of poultry growers in Delaware County, a quarter of whom are Cherokee. They are concerned that the proposed lawsuit would, in effect, put them out of business. I advised them that I would contact your office and offer our assistance and services in any way that might be helpful to facilitate discussions to reconcile the poultry litter problem affecting water quality in Northeastern Oklahoma. I am sure we agree that negotiation and settlement is better than litigation, if at all possible.

I did advise the poultry growers I met with that any kind of negotiations as an alternative to litigation would have to have all the parties at the table and a firm timeline. We are available if we can assist in that process.

We all agree that pollution by the poultry industry is a serious problem. I commend you for your interest in protecting our environment. If we can serve in any capacity, please advise.

Yours,

Chad Smith Principal Chief

CS:lr

cc: Delaware County Board of Commissioners